

**Grant Funds Available for Community Enhancement
March 25, 2008 Meetings to Outline the Process**

Memphis, TN. - The Memphis and Shelby County Health Department is announcing the availability of grant funds to support community environmental enhancement projects in the Riverview-Kansas community. The Riverview-Kansas community is located in the vicinity of Florida Street/Kansas Street and Mallory Avenue in the City of Memphis, Tennessee. Two community meetings to explain the purpose, requirements, eligibility and application process for these grants will be held on **Tuesday, March 25, 2008.**

Funding for these grants comes from the settlement of an enforcement action for alleged Clean Air Act violations reached last year between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Health Department and the Premcor Refining Group, Inc, in which Premcor agreed to invest in local projects to address air quality and other environmental concerns.

In December 2007, Shelby County Mayor A C Wharton, Jr. announced the availability of grant monies totaling \$150,000, ear-marked for environmental enhancement projects in the Riverview-Kansas community.

"Improving environmental conditions has been one of my primary focuses. This grant funding will allow us to move the ball further down the field in making Shelby County cleaner, safer and better. I would strongly encourage every eligible neighborhood group and community organization that shares in this commitment to take full advantage of this opportunity," said Mayor A C Wharton, Jr.

The purpose of these grants is to fund local grassroots projects to enhance the environment of the Riverview-Kansas community. Grants will be available, on a one-time basis, to non-profit groups, recognized community development organizations, or neighborhood and environmental groups in the Riverview-Kansas community that partner with a 501(c)(3) organization.

These community enhancement grants will be awarded to successful applicants for varying amounts depending upon the need for grant support and the scope of the project proposed. Generally, grant awards will be divided into two categories: 1.) Small grants of \$10,000 or less; and 2.) Large grants in amounts greater than \$10,000.

The grants are specifically designed for projects that improve the Riverview-Kansas neighborhood. Projects that encourage neighborhood cleanup and beautification such as planting trees and projects that rehabilitate homes and promote energy-efficient home improvements would qualify. "The circumstances in which we live, work and play have a direct effect on our health status," said Health Department Director Yvonne S. Madlock. "Projects that promote cleaner air and cleaner, safer neighborhoods will also ultimately improve the health of those who live and work in those neighborhoods. We are excited about this opportunity to partner with the Riverview-Kansas neighborhood to achieve our shared goals of a healthier community."

Two community discussions/meetings have been scheduled in order to educate the community about the grants, answer questions and ensure the input and

involvement of residents and stakeholders in the Riverview-Kansas community in the planning, application process and implementation phase of this community-county partnership for the environmental enhancement of the Riverview-Kansas area. The

community discussions/meetings have been scheduled on **Tuesday, March 25, 2008**, at two times to accommodate different work schedules:

Date: March 25, 2008

Time: 3:30 p.m.

**Location: Bloomfield Full Gospel Church
123 South Parkway
Memphis, TN 38112**

Date: March 25, 2008

Time: 7:00 p.m.

**Location: Bloomfield Full Gospel Church
123 South Parkway
Memphis, TN 38112**

(A representative from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will be present at both meetings to provide general information about EPA programs and to take questions.)

Grant applications will be available at each of these scheduled events. Applications may also be obtained by contacting Mr. Ronn Adkins by Phone: (901) 544-6826 / Fax: (901) 544-7654 / E-mail: Ronne.Adkins@shelbycountyttn.gov.

Eligible Applicants: These community environmental enhancement grants are focused toward local neighborhood groups in the Riverview-Kansas community. However, applicants located elsewhere in Shelby County, Tennessee, who submit applications for projects that enhance or improve the environment within the focus area will be given consideration for funding. If the applicant is not designated as a not-for-profit corporation under the laws of Tennessee and a 501(c)(3) organization, the applicant must partner with an organization that meets this criteria. This can include a recognized community development organization, environmental group, or other entity approved by MSCHD that will agree to serve as fiscal agent for the applicant and submit a joint Grant application request.

Applications must be submitted in triplicate on the application form provided by Wednesday, April 30, 2008, and all the grant funds must be spent and the projects completed no later than May 1, 2009. The grant applications must be completed and post-marked by Wednesday, April 30, 2008 or received in the office of Ronn Adkins, Memphis-Shelby County Health Department by 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, April 30, 2008.

Completed grant applications should be mailed or delivered to the following address:

**Yvonne Madlock
Director, Memphis-Shelby County Health Department (MSCHD)
C/O Mr. Ronn Adkins
Shelby County Air Quality Coordinator
814 Jefferson Ave., Room 438 P**

Memphis, TN 38105

Any questions concerning the application process and/or projects or groups eligible for funding should be directed to Ronn Adkins by mail, fax, e-mail or by telephone:

Mr. Ronn Adkins
Memphis-Shelby County Health Department (MSCHD)
814 Jefferson Ave., Room 438 P
Memphis, TN 38105
Phone: (901) 544-6826
Fax: (901) 544-7654
E-mail: Ronne.Adkins@shelbycountyttn.gov

For more information, contact:
Joan Carr (901) 544-7505